Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Diseases of the heart are the nation's leading cause of death, and stroke is the third leading cause of death; and,

Whereas, Cardiovascular diseases (CVD) are the leading cause of death among women; and,

Whereas, Heart attack, stroke and other cardiovascular diseases claim the lives of more than half a million women each year—more than the next seven causes of death combined, and nearly twice as many as all forms of cancer, including breast cancer; and,

Whereas, The cost of cardiovascular diseases and stroke in the United States is estimated at $352 billion; and,

Whereas, One in five females in the United States has some form of cardiovascular disease; and,

Whereas, 63 percent of women who died suddenly of coronary heart disease had no previous symptoms of this disease; and,

Whereas, February is designated as American Heart Month; and,

Whereas, The American Heart Association is launching a new campaign, "Go Red For Women", to encourage women to pay attention to their hearts and help them live longer, stronger lives by reducing their risk of cardiovascular disease:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim February 6, 2004, as

WEAR RED FOR WOMEN DAY

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-ninth Day of January in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State